Image AF/4

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April 6, 2004

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Art Unit 1636
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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/227,742; Filed: January 8, 1999
For: **Method for Increasing Viability and Transformation Efficiency of Bacteria During Storage at Low Temperatures**
Inventors: Bloom *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4770003/RWE/FRC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17);

2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);

3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116;

4. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of $110.00 to cover: $110.00 Extension of Time Fee; and

5. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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RWE/FRC/shr
Enclosures

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